

ELECTRIC LIGHTING ACTS, 1882 AND 1888.

SPECIAL REPORT BY THE BOARD OF TRADE UNDER
SECTION 1 OF THE ELECTRIC LIGHTING ACT, 1888.

ARDROSSAN, SALTCOATS, AND DISTRICT ELECTRIC LIGHTING
ORDER, 1910.

Mr. George Balfour, Electrical Engineer, applied for a Provisional Order under the Electric Lighting Acts in respect of the Burghs of Ardrossan and Saltcoats, and a portion of the Parish of Stevenston in the County of Ayr.

The Local Authorities for the Burgh of Saltcoats and the Parish of Stevenston gave their consent to the application, but the Corporation of Ardrossan refused their consent and lodged objections to the Order, the grounds of their objections being that the grant of the Order would result in the introduction of competition with the Corporation's gas undertaking.

The Board of Trade ordered a local enquiry to be held on their behalf. Evidence was produced at the enquiry to show that there was a demand for electricity in Ardrossan, and as the policy of the Board has been to hold that objection on the grounds of competition with a gas undertaking even when belonging to a local authority is not a sufficient reason to justify them in refusing to grant an Electric Lighting Order, the Board decided to dispense with the consent of the Corporation of Ardrossan, and to grant the Order in respect of all the area of supply applied for excepting a portion of the Parish of Stevenston which was struck out on the representations of certain other objectors.

T. H. W. PELHAM,

Assistant Secretary.

BOARD OF TRADE,
21st June, 1910.

SMETHWICK ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER, 1910.

The Smethwick Electric Lighting Order, 1898, was granted by the Board of Trade to the Smethwick Urban District Council (now the Corporation). The Corporation did not exercise their powers under the Order, but they entered into a contract (dated 31st October, 1901) with the Birmingham and Midland Tramways, Limited, under Section 11 of the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, under which the Tramways Company were to establish works under the Order.

Questions arose as to the validity of the contract, and in July, 1907, the Corporation transferred their powers, &c., under the Order to the Tramways Company under Section 59 of the Order.

Under an agreement entered into by the parties at the same time that they executed the deed of transfer it was provided that the Tramways Company should not transfer their powers, &c., under the Order to any other body without the consent of the Board of Trade and of the Corporation, but the consent of the latter was not to be unreasonably withheld.

The Tramways Company have applied for a Provisional Order this Session to authorise them to transfer their powers, &c., under the Smethwick Electric Lighting Order, 1898, to the Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire Electric Power Company.

The Tramways Company approached the Corporation for their consent to the application, and the Corporation intimated that they would be prepared to give their consent on certain conditions.

The Tramways Company would not agree to the conditions proposed by the Corporation, and the latter consequently objected to the application, and passed a resolution refusing their consent.

The Board of Trade invited representatives of the Corporation and the Tramways Company to attend at this Office to discuss the matter, and an agreement was arrived at with regard to all the conditions except one, which provided that certain costs incurred by the Corporation in respect of their negotiations with the two Companies should be paid by one or other of those Companies.

The Board of Trade, after considering the representations made to them, and having regard to the fact that the question of costs between parties is not a matter which comes within their province, decided to dispense with the consent of the Corporation of Smethwick, and to grant the Order.

T. H. W. PELHAM,

Assistant Secretary.

BOARD OF TRADE,
21st June, 1910

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BY

THE BOARD OF TRADE

UNDER

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACon STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
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OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDEDAL COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAYTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1910.

[Cd. 5210.]— Price ½d.